

December 6, 1967

Mr. Turner Catledge
Executive Editor
The New York Times
New York, New York

LL

Dear Mr. Catledge:

One of the features that makes the New York Times the best newspaper in the United States is its verbatim reporting of important documents and speeches. I know that many people, like myself, make a point of clipping a certain number of these as the most available resource for such documents for periods of months or years before they possibly appear in some other published form. I am deeply grateful for this unique resource.

May I just make a very small operational suggestion? Add a brief section to your daily "News Summary and Index" to list such documents. Or, if this is too redundant, asterisk page references in the body of the index where you include such documents in your story.

About the only thing wrong I can say about the New York Times is (1) the demise of the west coast edition, and (2), your policy of not running commentaries that originate in other newspapers, especially my own column!

Yours,faithfully,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

P.S. I was especially gratified at the way the enclosed story was handled, which, as you might well imagine, was on an utterly different plane from the way any other newspaper has ever dealt with this subject. I might also add that I have received considerably more mail that was provoked by this brief story than any response I have ever gotten from any one of my own writings.

CATLEDGE -
NY TIMES